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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 747,967	12 27 2000	Tsutomu Uematsu	122.1429 CJG	3208

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EXAMINER

FUREMAN, JARED

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 10 24 2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/747,967

Applicant(s)

UEMATSU ET AL.

Examiner

Jared J. Fureman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 December 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the IDS filed on 2/9/2001 and the abstract filed on 3/5/2001, which have been entered in the file.

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated (see page 3 lines 29-31 and page 4 line 29 - page 7 line 26). See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: --STORE SALES PROCEED DEPOSITING MACHINE INCLUDING A CASH DISPENSER--.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1:

Line 22, "the" (first occurrence) should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the person".

Line 24, "the" should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the balance".

Line 27, "the" should be deleted, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the cashing data".

Claim 2, line 5: "this" should be replaced with --said--, in order to improve the readability of the claim.

Claim 3, line 6: "side" should be deleted.

Claim 4, line 3: "the" (both occurrences) should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the ratio" and "the balance".

Claim 5, line 6: "side" should be deleted.

Claim 6, line 3: "the" (first occurrence) should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the rear side".

Claim 8:

Line 3, --inside the machine-- should be inserted after "provided", to clarify that the storage unit and external communications unit are provided inside the machine.

Line 6, "inside the machine" should be deleted, in order to avoid the appearance that the public line is inside the machine.

Line 18, "from" should be replaced with --to--, in order to clarify that the cash is moving from the cash temporary holder to the cash dispensing slot.

Line 26, "cashng" should be replaced with --cashing--, in order to correct a typographical error, and "the" should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the balance".

Line 30, "the" (first occurrence) should be deleted, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the cashing data.

Claim 9, line 3: "the" (first occurrence) should be replaced with --a--, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the rear side".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-3 and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchida et al (US 4,890,824) in view of Martin et al (US 5,508,500) and Owens et al (US 6,371,368 B1).

Uchida et al teaches a depositing machine provided with a deposit operation panel (panel 1A) at one side of the machine and provided inside the machine with a cash storage unit (received-bill box 25), wherein: provision is made of a cashing operation panel (panel 1B) at a side of the machine different from the deposit side,

provision is made inside the machine of a cashing controller (an operating section, not shown, see column 3 lines 13-21), a second cash storage (circulating-bill pooling means 22) unit for storing a predetermined amount of cash for a cashing service, a second cash temporary holder (17B) for taking out and temporarily holding a cashed amount input from the cashing operation panel from the second cash storage unit, a cashing processor (pooling wheel 15B and associated pulleys/belts for conveying cash to the dispensing port 4B) for dispensing cash from the second cash temporary holder, a cash apportioner (fork 20) is provided before the cash storage unit, deposited cash is stored apportioned between the cash storage unit and the second cash storage unit by the cash apportioner (the fork directs 10,000 yen bills to the second cash storage unit 22 and other bills to the cash storage unit 25), part of the deposited cash is used to resupply the cash in the second cash storage unit (the 10,000 yen bills are used to resupply the second cash storage unit 22), wherein the cashing operation panel (1B) is provided at the rear side of the deposit operation panel (1A) of the machine (see figures 1, 2, column 1 lines 6-13, 30-56, column 3 lines 11-46, column 3 line 49 - column 6 line 2).

Uchida et al fails to specifically teach a store sales proceed depositing machine, an external communications unit for notifying a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line, the external communications unit is given a function enabling communication with a financial institution, the cashing controller is made to perform processing for verification of the person performing the cashing operation, processing for determining whether to authorize cashing by confirmation of the balance in that

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persons savings account, processing for dispensing cash to be reimbursed from that persons savings account when authorizing cashing, and processing for notifying the cashing data to the financial institution, the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and the amount of cash apportioned by the cash apportioner to the second cash storage unit so as to enable the cash logistics company side to keep the amount of sales proceeds deposited and amount retrieved by the cash logistics company matching, the cashing operation panel provided with an ID card insertion slot, the cashing controller is made to perform processing for verification of the ID card.

Martin et al teaches a store sales proceed depositing machine (10), the machine including an external communications unit (modem 45) for notifying a cash logistics company (management system 54) of deposit data through a public line (telephone line), the external communications unit is given a function enabling communication with a financial institution (EFT 50a-50n), a cashing controller (CPU 36) is made to perform processing for verification of the person performing the cashing operation, processing for determining whether to authorize cashing by confirmation of the balance in that persons savings account (a cash account), processing for dispensing cash to be reimbursed from that persons savings account when authorizing cashing, and processing for notifying the cashing data to the financial institution, the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and the amount of cash deposited so as to enable the cash logistics company side to keep the amount of sales proceeds deposited and amount retrieved by the cash logistics

company matching (the management computer system 54 monitors communications to log transactions and authorizations, control routing, and provide management reports), a cashing operation panel (32) is provided with an ID card insertion slot (part of card reader 42), the cashing controller is made to perform processing for verification of the ID card (see figures 1-4, column 1 lines 10-39, column 2 lines 20-60, column 3 line 58 - column 4 line 42, column 5 line 28 - column 6 line 10).

In view of Martin et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Uchida et al, a store sales proceed depositing machine, an external communications unit for notifying a cash logistics company of deposit data through a public line, the external communications unit is given a function enabling communication with a financial institution, the cashing controller is made to perform processing for verification of the person performing the cashing operation, processing for determining whether to authorize cashing by confirmation of the balance in that persons saving account, processing for dispensing cash to be reimbursed from that persons savings account when authorizing cashing, and processing for notifying the cashing data to the financial institution, the external communications unit notifies the cash logistics company of the deposit data and the amount of cash apportioned by the cash apportioner to the second cash storage unit so as to enable the cash logistics company side to keep the amount of sales proceeds deposited and amount retrieved by the cash logistics company matching, the cashing operation panel provided with an ID card insertion slot, the cashing controller is made to perform processing for verification of the ID card, in order

to provide the functions of an ATM without all the associated cost of a conventional ATM (see column 2 lines 13-14 and column 5 lines 18-37 of Martin et al).

Uchida et al as modified by Martin et al fails to specifically teach the cashing processor issuing a receipt, wherein the deposit operation panel and the cashing operation panel of the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is made accessible only to a employee of the store, the cashing operation panel is made usable by a store customer/the general public, the cashing operation panel provided with a receipt issuing slot.

Owens et al teaches a cash depositing/dispensing machine (10) which issues (via receipt opening 26) a receipt for transactions conducted at the machine, wherein a deposit side (the side including note inlet opening 268) and the dispensing side (the side including note outlet opening 266) of the machine are separated by a wall (not shown), the deposit side is made accessible only to a employee of the store, and the dispensing side is made usable by a store customer/the general public (see figures 1, 22, column 3 lines 50-54, column 4 lines 21-26, column 4 line 63 - column 5 lines 13, column 6 lines 34-36, column 6 line 50 - column 7 line 17, column 7 lines 59-63, and column 24 line 44 - column 25 line 11).

In view of Owens et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Uchida et al as modified by Martin et al, the cashing processor issuing a receipt and the cashing operation panel being provided with a receipt issuing slot, in order to provide the user with a printed record of the transaction, and wherein the deposit operation

panel and the cashing operation panel of the machine are separated by a wall, the deposit operation panel is made accessible only to a employee of the store, and the cashing operation panel is made usable by a store customer/the general public, in order to allow both depositing and dispensing notes at the same time (see column 24 line 60 - column 25 line 9 of Owens et al).

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 4 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a store sales proceed depositing machine wherein the cash apportioner changes the ratio of apportionment of deposited cash so that the balance of cash for the cashing service in the second cash storage unit becomes the predetermined amount, in combination with the other claimed limitations as set forth in the claims.

Uchida et al only stores 10,000 yen bills in the second cash storage unit, all other deposited bills are stored in the cash storage unit 25 (see column 4 lines 3-16 of Uchida et al). Thus, while the ratio of apportionment will change depending on the number of 10,000 yen bills as compared to bills of other denominations, the ratio does not change to maintain a predetermined balance in the second cash storage unit.

In the systems as taught by Martin et al and Owens et al all the deposited cash is available for dispensing, there is no apportionment of cash between a storage unit for dispensing cash and a storage unit for simply storing cash.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Katou et al (US 6,422,458 B1), Do et al (US 6,206,284 B1), Ademmer et al (US 6,006,989), Sugai et al (US 5,250,788), Kimura et al (US 4,883,183), Arimoto et al (US 4,365,700), Inoyama et al (US 4,166,945), Koshida et al (JP 64-21693 A), Yuasa et al (JP 6-60246 A), Tanigaki (JP 57-212568 A), and (JP 2002-133094 A) all teach machines with cash depositing and dispensing functions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (703) 305-0424. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Jared J. Fureman
Jared J. Fureman
October 19, 2002